

What's New in the MPDC

APRIL 22, 2002

MPDC STEPS UP OUTREACH EFFORTS TO VICTIMS OF CRIME IN DC

The MPDC announced this week that it is joining the National Center for Victims of Crime in its "Call on Us" initiative to assist victims of crime in DC rebuild their lives. In the MPDC's 2001 survey, DC crime victims indicated an overall satisfaction with

DC Crime Victim's Compensation Program assists victims and their families with the financial burden of a violent crime. Learn more about the CVCP and other rights and resources for crime victims:

mpdc.dc.gov/serv/victims/victims.shtm

initial police response, but reported the need for more follow-up information, including resources and referrals. In response, MPDC officers will receive training and begin distributing informational cards containing victims' rights and resources, including the NCVC's Helpline, 1-800-FYI-CALL. With a single telephone call, victims can receive information about safety planning, victim compensation, and victims' rights, as well as referrals to counseling, court accompaniment, crisis intervention, and shelter. DC's Metro system is supporting "Call On Us" by displaying the National Center's public service announcements in train stations and on buses through the month of April. Read the news release at:

The MPDC's new outreach efforts coincide with National Crime Victims' Rights Week, which runs from April 21-27. For more information, including the 2002 NCVRW Resource Guide, go to:

www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/ncvrw/welcome.html

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mpdc.dc.gov (Click on News Room)

PHOTO RADAR PROGRAM CONTINUES TO SHOW PROMISING RESULTS

The percentage of vehicles aggressively speeding on DC streets and highways monitored by photo radar has declined by 58 percent since the program began last summer. That's one of the promising results from the latest statistics on DC's photo enforcement program. During the July 2001 warning period, 31 percent of the vehicles monitored by photo radar exceeded the program's speeding threshold. In March 2002, the percentage of vehicles exceeding the threshold had fallen to 13 percent – even though a record number of vehicles were monitored by photo radar during the month (538,470). Average speeds in DC's residential neighborhoods and highways continue to decline, as well. On streets with a 25-mph speed limit, the average speed of all vehicles monitored by photo radar has fallen from 35.5 mph in July 2001 to 28.3 mph in March 2002. View the latest photo radar results at:

The latest numbers on DC's red-light camera program show a strong, 64 percent reduction in the number of red-light running violations at the 39 intersections equipped with cameras, since the program began in August 1999. Details, including a map showing the locations of all red-light cameras, can be found at:

mpdc.dc.gov/info/traffic/redlight.shtm

mpdc.dc.gov/info/traffic/speedresults_text.shtm

CHIEF RAMSEY TESTIFIES ON NEW UNIFIED COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

A new Unified Communications Center combining all of DC's emergency and non-emergency call-taking services would enhance the District's ability to manage major events and respond to both public safety emergencies and quality-of-life concerns, Chief Ramsey told the DC Council Judiciary Committee during a public hearing this past week. DC hopes to build a state-of-the-art UCC on the campus of St. Elizabeth's Hospital within the next few years, providing both public safety and economic development benefits to the city. For example, with additional space, new technology and operational changes envisioned with the UCC, the MPDC will be able to create a dedicated corps of 9-1-1 call-takers who would be able to answer calls more quickly and work with individual callers more extensively. Right now, all 9-1-1 and 3-1-1 calls come into the same MPDC call-takers, meaning that some emergency calls may be put on hold. Other benefits of the UCC include universal call-takers trained in police, fire and EMS procedures, new communications technology and additional workplace advancements to improve employee productivity. Read the Chief's complete statement on the UCC at:

In addition to improvements in emergency response, the UCC is expected enhance coordination of all non-emergency requests for city services through a single, toll-free number (3-1-1). Currently, 3-1-1 is reserved for police non-emergencies; other city services requests go to the Citywide Call Center (727-1000). Learn more about the current 3-1-1 system for police non-emergencies at:
mpdc.dc.gov/info/phone/311.shtm

mpdc.dc.gov (Click on News Room)

UPCOMING: 2002 CAREER EXPO

Individuals interested in becoming a police officer with the MPDC are encouraged to attend the 2002 Career Expo, on Saturday, April 27, from 9 am to 5 pm, at the Washington Convention Center. Recruiters will be on hand to explain the application and training process, and various MPDC units will show off the tools of the trade and discuss career opportunities with applicants. Individuals can also begin the application process on-site by taking the written portion of the entrance exam. Applicants can also take the physical abilities test on Saturday at the MPDC Training Academy, located at #6 DC Village Lane; a shuttle bus will ferry applicants to and from the Convention Center. Complete details on the Career Expo can be found at:

*Can't make it to the Career Expo?
You can still get detailed
information on the application
process, the minimum requirements of
police officers and even initiate the
application process on-line at:*
**[mpdc.dc.gov/about/employ/
officer.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/about/employ/officer.shtm)**

mpdc.dc.gov/about/employ/careerexpo02.shtm

Information, ideas or comments about this service?

E-mail Kevin Morison, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at kevin.morison@dc.gov.

Would you like to have this information emailed to you? Just go to our web site and register with crimereports.com.

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT WEB PAGE
MPDC.DC.GOV